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Safe Summer Initiative Up and Running

Mayor Reed, City Officials Fund Programs to Keep City Youth Safe this Summer

SAN JOSE – Mayor Chuck Reed’s **Safe Summer Initiative** is keeping San José youth active, busy, and off the streets this summer with block parties, sports events, field trips, and scholarships for summer camp. With \$342,804 allocated to city programs and community based organizations, the **Safe Summer Initiative** provides a critical tool in the City of San José’s efforts to combat gang involvement among youth.

“Summer can be a risky time for our youth, so we’ve created the Safe Summer Initiative to fill their free time and keep them busy with healthy, fun activities,” said Mayor Chuck Reed. “I want to thank our community partners for responding to this challenge and for their continued efforts to keep our youth out of trouble and away from gangs not only during the summer season, but year-round.”

Launched on June 27, the **Safe Summer Initiative** includes \$242,804 in City funds, allocated in the Mayor’s June Budget Message, and \$100,000 awarded by District Attorney Dolores Carr.

With the limited time frame of summer vacation, the **Safe Summer Initiative** has gotten underway quickly, with grants going from application to award in two weeks.

Community-based organizations will receive \$304,250 in mini-grants for camps, community events, mentoring programs, and other activities for San José youth. The initiative will provide \$30,719 to city programs to enhance swim center activities, fund middle school soccer leagues, and provide scholarships for 50 youth from low-income families to attend city summer camps.

The City of San José’s Safe School Campus Initiative staff, together with the City’s Strong Neighborhoods Initiative and community-based partners, will hold ten Community Block Parties throughout the City. This weekend’s events include a Family Movie Night at the Meadow Fair Center, 2696 S. King Road, on Friday, August 1, from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. and a Summer Carnival at the Hillview Library, 1600 Hopkins Dr., on Saturday, August 2.

The **Safe Summer Initiative** has met with an overwhelming response from community organizations, with total requests for funding totaling over \$1.2 million.

For additional information and a complete list of **Safe Summer Initiative** activities, please visit: www.sanjoseca.gov/mayor/safe.asp or contact Melanie Jimenez at (408) 535-4828 or at melanie.jimenez@sanjoseca.gov.

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